MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS WESTERN DISTRICT

COMPLETE TITLE OF CASE:

LAKE OZARK-OSAGE BEACH JOINT SEWER BOARD, ET AL.

Appellants

v.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, LAND RECLAMATION COMMISSION AND MAGRUDER LIMESTONE CO., INC.

Respondents

DOCKET NUMBER WD78869

MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS WESTERN DISTRICT

DATE: June 14, 2016

Appeal From:

Circuit Court of Miller County, MO The Honorable Sanford Francis Conley, IV, Judge

Appellate Judges:

Division Three

Gary D. Witt, P.J., James Edward Welsh, and Anthony Rex Gabbert, JJ.

Attorneys:

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MISSOURI APPELLATE COURT OPINION SUMMARY MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS, WESTERN DISTRICT

LAKE OZARK-OSAGE BEACH JOINT SEWER BOARD, ET AL., Appellants, v. MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, LAND RECLAMATION COMMISSION AND MAGRUDER LIMESTONE CO., INC., Respondents.

WD78869 Miller County

Before Division Three Judges: Witt, P.J., Welsh, and Gabbert, JJ.

The Lake Ozark-Osage Beach Joint Sewer Board and Larry and Vicky Stockman appeal the circuit court's judgment affirming the Missouri Land Reclamation Commission's decision to grant Magruder Limestone Co., Inc., a permit to operate a limestone quarry on a site adjacent to a wastewater treatment plant owned and operated by the Lake Ozark-Osage Beach Joint Sewer Board, subject to certain conditions.

Affirmed.

Division Three holds:

The Commission did not err in granting Magruder's permit after removing and modifying conditions that were recommended by the hearing officer appointed by the Commission. The Land Reclamation Act leaves the decision to grant or deny the permit solely to the discretion of the Commission. The Commission was not required to issue its own decision with findings of fact and conclusions of law after modifying the recommended decision; the elimination and modification of some conditions did not render the entire decision unsupported by competent and substantial evidence; and the Commission was not required to adopt all the suggested conditions for Magruder to satisfy its burden of proof.

The Commission did not err in granting Magruder's permit due to the hearing officer's (and, ultimately, the Commission's) decision to add conditions to the permit. *Saxony Lutheran High School, Inc. v. Missouri Department of Natural Resources*, 404 S.W.3d 902 (Mo. App. 2013), held that the Commission had the authority to impose a condition on a permit to operate a mine, and the legislature has since amended the statutes to now explicitly authorize the Director to impose such conditions. Thus, the Commission had the authority to impose conditions on Magruder's permit.

Opinion by James Edward Welsh, Judge

June 14, 2016

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